

Massachusetts: Burden of Chronic Diseases, 1996

Cardiovascular Diseases

- Cardiovascular diseases were responsible for 21,657 deaths in Massachusetts in 1996.
- Cardiovascular diseases were the most common cause of death, accounting for 39% of all deaths.
- Ischemic heart disease accounted for 10,634 deaths, or 19% of all deaths.
- Stroke was the cause of 3,358 deaths.

Cancer

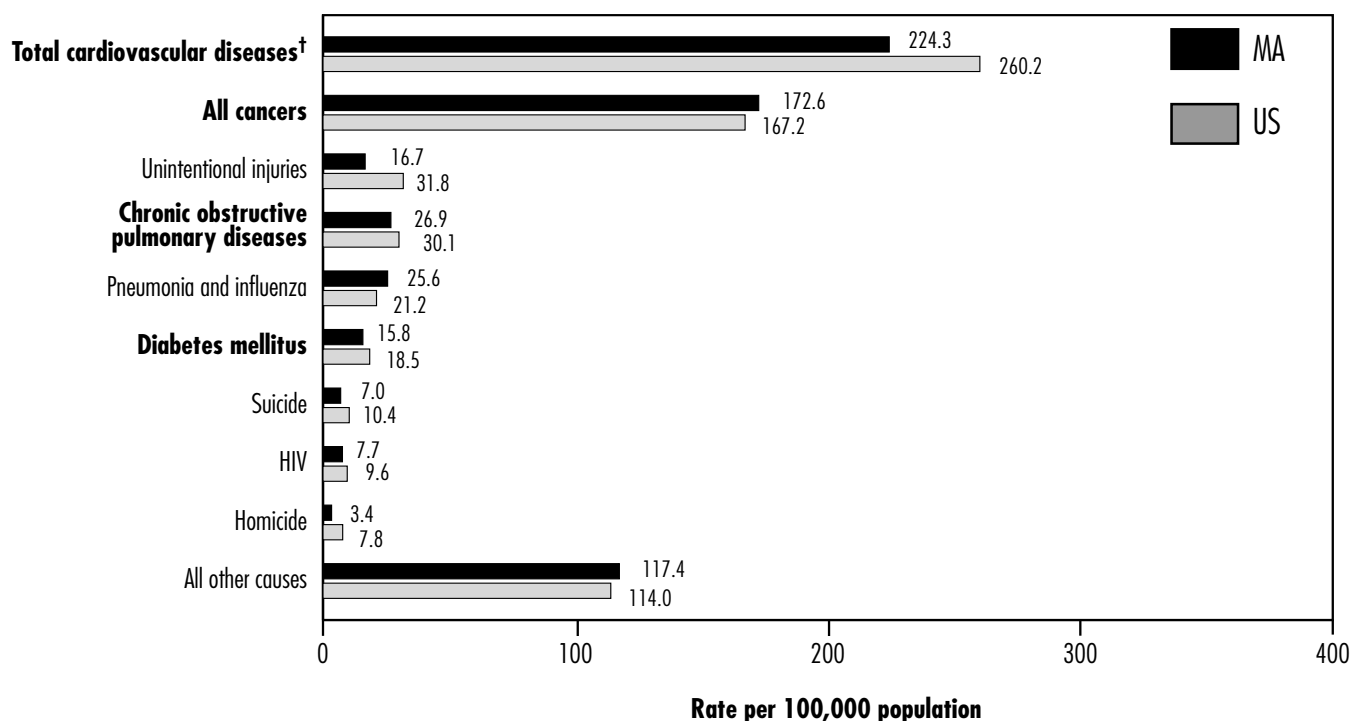
- Cancer accounted for 25% of all deaths in Massachusetts in 1996.
- Of all states, Massachusetts had the tenth highest death rate due to colorectal cancer.

- The American Cancer Society estimates that 30,700 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in Massachusetts in 1999, including 4,100 new cases of lung cancer, 3,600 new cases of colorectal cancer, 4,000 new cases of prostate cancer, and 4,400 new cases of breast cancer in women.
- The American Cancer Society estimates that 14,200 Massachusetts residents will die of cancer in 1999.

Diabetes

- In 1996, 214,652 adults in Massachusetts had diagnosed diabetes.
- Diabetes was the underlying cause of 1,354 deaths and a contributing cause of an additional 2,995 deaths.

Causes of Death, Massachusetts Compared With United States, 1996*



*Deaths per 100,000, age adjusted to 1970 total U.S. population.

†Total cardiovascular disease rates include rates of death due to ischemic heart disease (112.6 per 100,000 in Massachusetts and 131.0 per 100,000 in the United States) and rates of death due to stroke (32.7 per 100,000 in Massachusetts and 42.0 per 100,000 in the United States).

Massachusetts: Risk Factors and Preventive Services, 1997 and 1998

Risk Factors Among Adults

- In 1998, current cigarette smoking was reported by 26% of Hispanics and 21% of whites in Massachusetts.
- No leisure-time physical activity was reported by 35% of Hispanics, 33% of blacks, 28% of Asians/Pacific Islanders, and 25% of whites.
- Eating fewer than five servings of fruits and vegetables per day was reported by 75% of Hispanics, 71% of blacks, and 69% of whites.
- According to self-reported height and weight, 66% of blacks, 50% of whites, and 47% of Hispanics were overweight.

Risk Factors Among High School Students

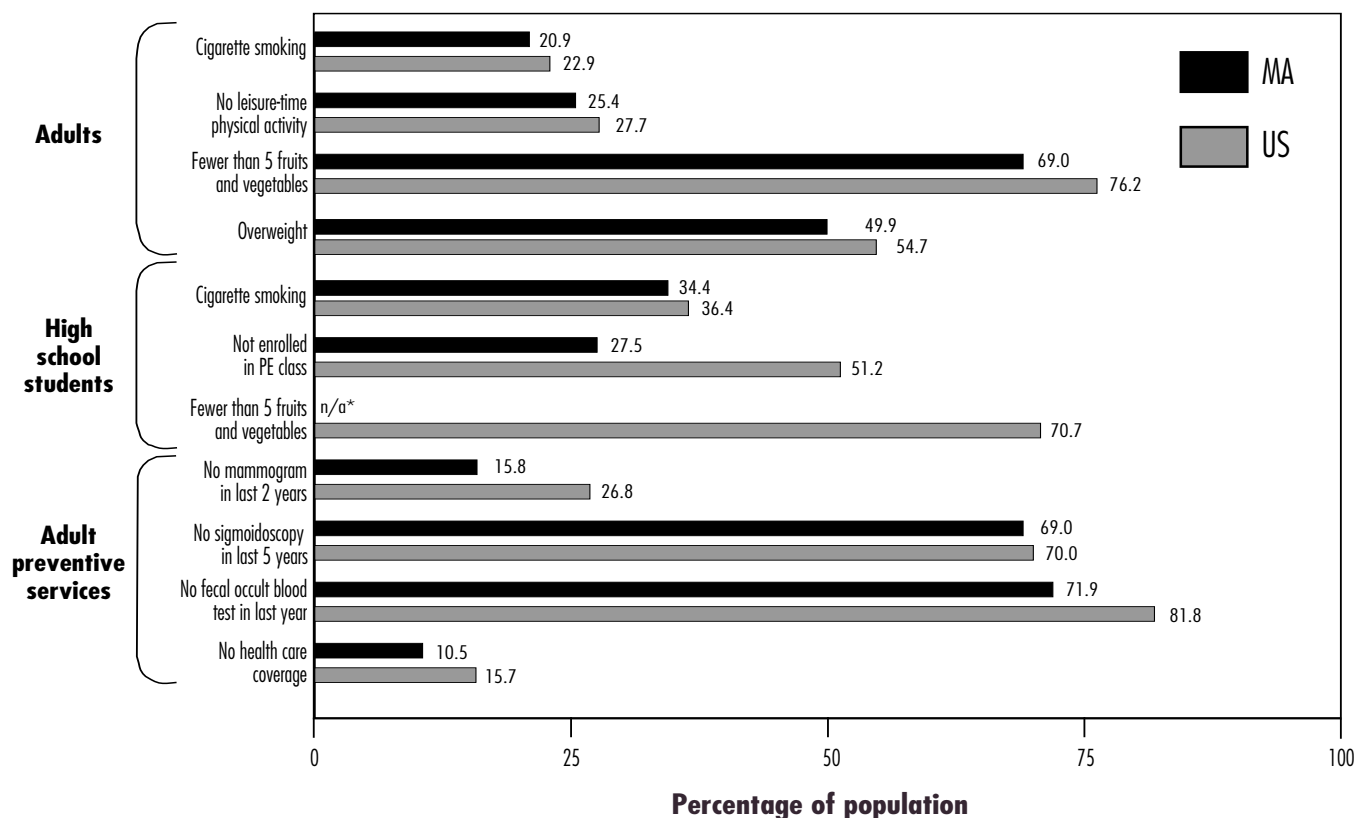
- In 1997, smoking cigarettes was reported by 38% of whites, 25% of blacks, and 19% of Hispanics in Massachusetts.

- Not being enrolled in physical education classes was reported by 40% of blacks, compared with 25% of whites.

Preventive Services

- Sixteen percent of women aged 50 years or older reported not having had a mammogram in the last 2 years.
- Among adults aged 50 years or older, 77% of women, compared with 59% of men, reported not having had a sigmoidoscopy within the last 5 years.
- Among adults aged 50 years or older, 79% of men and 66% of women reported not having had a fecal occult blood test within the last year.
- Among adults aged 18–64 years, no health care coverage was reported by 27% of Hispanics, compared with 11% of blacks, 10% of whites, and 8% of Asians/Pacific Islanders.

Risk Factors and Preventive Services, Massachusetts Compared With United States



*Did not collect data on this topic.

Source: CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 1997 and 1998.

CDC, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, 1997.